

## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A composition comprising:  
water;  
a hemicellulose in solution in said water; and  
a surfactant, said surfactant being present in an amount effective to reduce the viscosity of said solution.
2. A composition according to claim 1, said solution further including an amount of chloride salt effective to enhance the hygroscopicity of said solution.
3. A composition according to claim 1, further comprising a crosslinking agent in an amount effective to enhance the water resistance of said composition.
4. A composition according to claim 1, further comprising a lignin compound.
5. A composition comprising:  
water;  
a hemicellulose in solution in said water; and  
a crosslinking agent, said crosslinking agent being present in an amount effective to enhance the water resistance of said composition.
6. A composition according to claim 5, further comprising a chloride salt, said chloride salt being present in an amount effective to increase the hygroscopicity of said solution.
7. A composition according to claim 5, further comprising a lignin compound.
8. A method for reducing the release of airborne dust from a surface containing dust fines, comprising applying to said surface an amount of a dust control agent effective to bind at least a portion of said dust fines, said dust control agent comprising a hemicellulose.
9. A method according to claim 8, said hemicellulose comprising wood hemicellulose.
10. A method according to claim 8, said hemicellulose comprising corn hull hemicellulose.

11. A method according to claim 8, said dust control agent further comprising a lignin compound.
12. A method according to claim 8, said dust control agent being present in aqueous solution, said solution further comprising a surfactant, said surfactant being present in an amount effective to reduce the viscosity of said solution.
13. A method according to claim 8, said dust control agent being present in a composition that further comprises a crosslinking agent, said crosslinking agent being present in an amount effective to enhance the water resistance of said composition.
14. A method according to claim 8, said dust control agent being present in a composition that further comprises a chloride salt, said chloride salt being present in an amount effective to enhance the hygroscopicity of said composition.
15. A method for stabilizing a volume of aggregate, comprising applying to said volume an amount of a stabilizing agent effective to stabilize said volume of aggregate, said stabilizing agent comprising a hemicellulose.
16. A method according to claim 15, said hemicellulose comprising wood hemicellulose.
17. A method according to claim 15, said hemicellulose comprising corn hull hemicellulose.
18. A method according to claim 15, said stabilizing agent further comprising a lignin compound.
19. A method according to claim 15, said stabilizing agent being present in aqueous solution, said solution further comprising a surfactant, said surfactant being present in an amount effective to reduce the viscosity of said solution.
20. A method according to claim 15, said stabilizing agent being present in a composition that comprises a crosslinking agent, said crosslinking agent being present in an amount effective to enhance the water resistance of said composition.

21. A method according to claim 15, said stabilizing agent being present in a composition that comprises a chloride salt, said chloride salt being present in an amount effective to enhance the hygroscopicity of said composition.
22. A method according to claim 15, said volume of aggregate comprising a road bed.
23. A method according to claim 15, said volume of aggregate comprising a soil field.